

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject

County Counsel Review of Requests for Filing of Lawsuits

**Policy
Number**

A-61

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Purpose

To establish a standard procedure for obtaining the review and concurrence or comment from the County Counsel to the Board of Supervisors on all requests to the Board for authority to file lawsuits in court.

Background

It is upon occasion necessary that the County initiate litigation in order to resolve issues of significant concern to the County. The Board desires to have the concurrence or written review from the County Counsel relative to the merits of such lawsuits prior to their consideration by the Board. For this reason, it is necessary to have an established procedure.

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that except as otherwise provided: Prior to Board authorization and direction to the County Counsel to file a lawsuit in court, the County Counsel shall be consulted as to the merits of such a lawsuit. Any request or recommendation for authorization and direction from the Board of Supervisors to the County Counsel to file a lawsuit in court shall be accompanied by written concurrence or the written views of the County Counsel with regard to the merits of the case; provided however, that the County Counsel may, in lieu of such written concurrence or written views, request that the matter be discussed with the Board of Supervisors in Closed Session. County Counsel as part of this attorney-client review, has requested that all requests or recommendations by County offices, agencies or departments on potential lawsuits will be reviewed for comment by the CAO prior to being submitted to the County Counsel.

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-01.

Reference

B/S Action 11-30-76 (109)

B/S Action 9-27-88 (60)

B/S Action 11-29-94 (40)

CAO Reference

1. County Counsel

2. Chief Administrative Office